

Message Text

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SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT LEWIS H. DIUGUID BY-LINER
WASHINGTON POST WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, HEADED "CHILEAN
VIOLENCE INCREASINGLY SPREADS BEYOND ITS BORDERS."

2. VIOLENT POLITICAL CHANGE HAS BEEN UNDER WAY IN CHILE
FOR SIX YEARS NOW, WITH THE VIOLENCE INCREASINGLY
SPREADING BEYOND THE BORDERS OF THE LONG, NARROW SOUTH
AMERICAN COUNTRY INTO THE WESTERN CAPITALS TO WHICH
EXILES FROM THOSE OPPOSING THE PRESENT MILITARY GOVERN-
MENT HAD MOVED.

3. POLITICAL VIOLENCE BEGAN IN OPPOSITION TO MARXIST
PRESIDENT SALVADORE ALLENDE ON THE EVE OF HIS ELECTION
BY THE CONGRESS THERE IN 1970 -- WHEN RIGHTISTS TRIED
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TO PREVENT HIM FROM ASSUMING THE OFFICE TO WHICH HE HAD

BEEN POPULARLY ELECTED. THEY TRIED TO KIDNAP HIM BUT
INSTEAD KILLED THE ARMED FORCES COMMANDER, GEN. RENE
SCHNEIDER.

4. UNTIL THEN, CHILEANS HAD FOUGHT OUT THEIR INTENSE
IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES WITH WORDS, ON THE FLOORS OF

WHAT WAS OFTEN THIS HEMISPHERE'S MOST DIVERSE AND
EXCITING LEGISLATURE. THAT CONGRESS CONFIRMED
ALLENDE'S ELECTION WITH THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY
THAT HAD RULED BEFORE HIM GIVING HIM THE DECISIVE
MARGIN -- AND DESPITE SECRET U.S. EFFORTS, ONLY
RECENTLY REVEALED, TO BUY OFF THE VOTE.

5. ALLENDE WAS IN POWER SIX MONTHS WHEN A LEADER OF
THE OPPOSITION CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS WAS ASSASSINATED.
THAT DEATH, LAID TO A FANATICAL FAR-LEFTIST GROUP,
MARKED THE BEGINNING OF AN INTENSE POLARIZATION OF
CHILEANS INTO PRO- AND ANTI-ALLENDE CAMPS.

6. TOWARD THE END OF ALLENDE'S THREE EMBATTLED YEARS
IN POWER, CHILEANS WHO ONCE WERE MILITANTLY ANTI-
MILITARY BEGAN FITTING OUT THEIR TEEN-AGE CHILDREN IN
UNIFORMED MARCHING UNITS TO FIGHT FOR OR AGAINST THE
PRESIDENT. STREET BATTLES AND TEAR GAS BECAME COM-
MONPLACE.

7. ALLENDE TURNED TO THE MILITARY TO HELP HIM REIN
IN THE VIOLENCE, BRINGING INTO THE CABINET THE SUC-
CESSOR TO THE SLAIN LOYALIST GEN. SCHNEIDER --
ARMY COMMANDER CARLOS PRATS.

8. CHILEAN TROUBLES, PARTLY INDUCED BY U.S. PRESSURES
THROUGH INTERNATIONAL LENDING ORGANIZATIONS, WORSENER.
GEN. PRATS LEFT THE CABINET UNDER PRESSURE FROM THE
OFFICERS BELOW HIM WHO WOULD SOON LEAD A COUP AGAINST
ALLENDE. PRATS LATER WENT INTO EXILE AND WAS KILLED
ALONG WITH HIS WIFE IN A BOMBING, STILL UNSOLVED, IN
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA.

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9. LETELIER HAD BEEN CALLED FROM HIS AMBASSADORSHIP
IN WASHINGTON TOWARD THE END OF THE ALLENDE REGIME TO
BECOME FOREIGN MINISTER. IN THE LAST WEEK, HE WAS
NAMED MINISTER OF DEFENSE.

10. ON SEPT. 11, 1973, THE PRESENT MILITARY JUNTA
TOOK POWER BY FORCE AND DECLARED THAT ALLENDE HAD
COMMITTED SUICIDE IN THE RUINS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL

PALACE, WHICH HAD BEEN ROCKETED BY THE AIR FORCE.
FOLLOWERS OF ALLENDE HAVE INSISTED THAT HE WAS ASSAS-
SINATED.

11. YESTERDAY, LUIS REQUE, A BOLIVIAN AND A FORMER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, CITING FINDINGS BY THE COMMISSION,

DECLARED THAT "ALLENDE WAS THE FIRST VICTIM OF THE
COUP." REQUE HAD BEEN PRESSURED BY THE CHILEAN JUNTA
TO RESIGN FROM HIS POST EARLIER THIS YEAR FOLLOWING
THE COMMISSION'S DETAILED REPORTING ON TORTURE AND
OTHER DEPRIVATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE.

12. IN A SPEECH PREPARED FOR DELIVERY TO A MEETING OF
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL IN STRASBOURG ON THURSDAY, REQUE
CHARGES THAT THE JUNTA WITHHELD KEY INFORMATION FROM
THE RIGHTS COMMISSION WHEN IT SOUGHT TO DETERMINE THE
CAUSE OF ALLENDE'S DEATH.

13. THE JUNTA AT THAT TIME WAS TRYING TO CONVINCE
WORLD OPINION THAT ALLENDE'S DEATH WAS SUICIDE, AND IT
PROVIDED THE RIGHTS COMMISSION WITH A SUMMARY AUTOPSY.
BUT, REQUE CHARGES, WHEN THE COMMISSION SOUGHT THE
DATA FROM WHICH THE SUMMARY AUTOPSY WAS DRAWN, THE
JUNTA REFUSED -- SAYING THAT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH
HUMAN RIGHTS.

14. AT THE TIME THAT REQUE WAS HELPING PREPARE THE
REPORTS CONDEMNING CHILE, HE REPORTED IN DECEMBER,
1974, TO MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE THE RECEIPT OF A
NOTE AT HIS BETHESDA HOME SAYING, "YOUR DAUGHTER LESLIE
WILL BE KIDNAPPED."

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15. THE FAMILY ALSO REPORTED RECEIVING A CALL AT THE
HOME AND REQUE SAID HE RECEIVED SEVERAL AT THE COMMIS-
SION OFFICES. THE FBI WAS CALLED INTO THE CASE, BUT
NO ARRESTS WERE MADE AND NO HARM CAME TO THE 9-YEAR-OLD
GIRL.

16. A YEAR AGO, THE FBI ALSO APPROACHED TWO OTHER
PROMINENT CHILEANS THEN IN THIS COUNTRY TO WARN THEM
OF REPORTS THAT ATTEMPTS MIGHT BE MADE ON THEIR LIVES.
ONE MAN WARNED WAS RADOMIRO TOMIC, A CHRISTIAN DEMO-
CRATIC EX-AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON AND CHILEAN PRESI-
DENTIAL CANDIDATE WHO LAST YEAR WAS A SCHOLAR AT THE
WOODROW WILSON CENTER IN THE SMITHSONIAN. HE NOW IS
LIVING IN EUROPE. THE OTHER WAS FORMER MINISTER

GABRIEL VALDES, ALSO A CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT WHO WORKS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK.

17. BOTH OPPOSE THE PRESENT JUNTA, ALTHOUGH THEY RARELY HAVE SPOKEN PUBLICLY AGAINST THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT. NO ATTEMPT IS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN TAKEN AGAINST THEM.

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18. WHILE LETELIER SPENT HIS YEAR IN PRISONS ALONG THE SHANK OF CHILE, ANOTHER OF THE DEFENSE MINISTERS IN ALLENDE'S NUMEROUS CABINETS -- SOCIALIST JOSE TOHA -- DIED IN HIS CELL, THE MILITARY JUNTA SAID, BECAUSE OF ILLNESS.

19. GEN. OSCAR BONILLA, CONSIDERED A MODERATE AMONG THE GENERALS THAT TOOK POWER, DIED IN A HELICOPTER CRASH. GEN. ALBERTO BACHELET, WHO HAD SERVED THE ALLENDE GOVERNMENT IN A FOOD DISTRIBUTION POST, DIED OF WHAT WAS DECLARED TO BE HEART FAILURE IN 1974 WHILE A PRISONER OF THE JUNTA.

20. LAST YEAR, JUST AFTER THE FBI WENT TO TOMIC AND VALDES, CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC EX-SEN. BERNARDO LEIGHTON AND HIS WIFE WERE MACHINE-GUNNED IN ROME. HE HAS RECOVERED: SHE REMAINS PARALYZED. END TEXT. ROBINSON
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